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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
7 January 1966

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The Dominican Republic Situation Report

(Report as of 2:30 PM EST)

1. Garcia Godoy has requested the Inter-American Peace Force (IAPF) to regain control of Radio Santo Domingo from regular military forces who, he says, "have occupied the premises and studios." The president also requested that the IAPF patrol the vicinity of the National Palace. Ambassador Bunker has reported that the OAS Committee is transmitting this request to General Alvim but has not said what the committee would recommend to Alvim. In the past, Alvim often has expressed strong disagreement with Garcia Godoy's actions and has expressed sympathy for the regular military's positions. Last night, the regular military seized Radio Santo Domingo and put it off the air by retaining the stations' crystals. The size of the regular military guard at the station is not known.

2. Downtown Santo Domingo this morning was the scene of a short-lived small demonstration by a group of extremist youths [redacted] The youths tangled with dockworkers who were petitioning the government on a labor issue. Press reports that the demonstrators were dispersed by US paratroopers have not been confirmed.

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3. In public statements the military has given assurances that its actions have the limited objective

State Dept. review completed

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of pressuring Garcia Godoy into rescinding his decree sending top military leaders abroad. The armed forces proclaim that their leaders are not seeking "personal privileges of positions" but are attempting to prevent "capricious" attempts to weaken "the structures of the armed institutions." The armed forces are also stressing that their actions are taken in the face of "violent Communist subversion." [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] The Defense Minister has denied press reports that he intends to accept an assignment as attaché in Washington.

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5. The Dominican Army has seized the civil communications site outside Santo Domingo. International civil communications from the Dominican Republic have been severed but there is no indication

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that internal communications have been affected. A US defense communications site located in the same area has not been seized. If it were captured, the bulk of US military communications to Santo Domingo could be cut off or tapped. However, the tapping of these lines would not produce any readable US traffic.

6. Extremists have not yet moved to take advantage of the confused political situation and appear uncertain as to the best course of action to follow. For public consumption, they are publicizing the line that the current unrest is a deliberate ploy by the "US imperialists" to force Garcia Godoy to take action against the Dominican people.

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8. In mid-morning, almost all employees at the main post office in Santo Domingo left work, after one of their union representatives told them to go on strike "in support of the provisional government." Some of the employees reported rumors that the customs service was also going on strike.

9. In Santiago, right wing groups connected with the 22 November uprising against the government have announced their support of the regular military. Hot heads in Santiago could attempt to implement long held plans for "rounding up" leftists and thus provoke violence.

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